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Urban League of  
Greater Chattanooga, Inc.

Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.

*Celebrating 100 years of the National Urban League Movement*

March 31, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski and  
Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission  
FCC  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **GN Docket No. 09-191**

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

The Urban League of Greater Chattanooga works to empower African-Americans and other disadvantaged groups secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. To this end, access to affordable broadband internet connections is a critical foundation for realizing these goals and obtaining these benefits. Indeed, the greater deployment of broadband infrastructure—and easy access to the tools so provided-- is an indispensable ingredient for the future prosperity of our community. This is not an aspiration; it is a necessity.

Thus, here at the Chattanooga TN Affiliate, we have followed with interest the policy debates and public proceedings surrounding the issues of broadband deployment and access. Please know that we commend you on the recently published "National Broadband Plan." It is an extraordinary document, much needed, and keenly focused on the need for and great benefit of high speed internet access in our nation's underserved communities.

We also applaud your recognition of the need to encourage and attract private sector investment in this process. As you rightly note, the great gains achieved to date have been "fueled primarily by private sector investment and innovation." With the National Broadband Plan as a roadmap, and national

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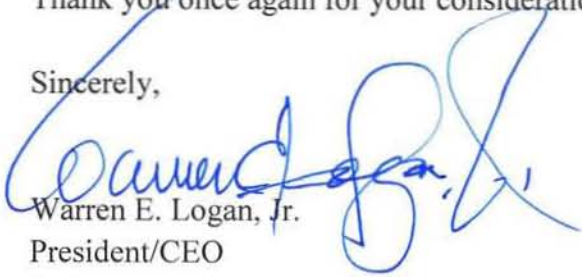
policies that create an environment conducive to the necessary private sector investment, we can realize our goal of improving networks, deploying broadband, and expanding access to all Americans.

Despite the general soundness of the Plan, however, we remain concerned about the direction of our federal policy. As we have expressed to the Commission in the past, the prospect of additional extra regulations on today's Internet strikes us as an unwise path. Specifically, the push for so-called "net neutrality" rules runs counter to our interest in expanding broadband access and threatens to jeopardize the potential inherent in the National Broadband Plan. With this in mind, we encourage you to reject any policies that discourage investment and build out. The concrete loss of investment and jobs and access should easily outweigh any abstract objective intended by these proposed new rules.

As you go forward, please recognize the needs of our underserved communities. All of us, working together, must bring the benefits of technology—jobs and investment, health care, education and civic participation—to those who can build a future upon its great promise.

Thank you once again for your consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Warren E. Logan, Jr.  
President/CEO